

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 20-28 are currently pending. Claims 20-28 are hereby added. Claims 1-19 are canceled. Claims 20, 26 and 28 are independent. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed.

Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,799, 327 to Reynolds et al. (hereinafter, merely "Reynolds") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,072,983 to Klosterman;

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Reynolds in view of Klosterman and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,836 to Huang et al. (hereinafter, merely "Huang");

Claims 4, 10, 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Reynolds in view of Klosterman and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0026208 of Ellis et al. (hereinafter, merely "Ellis"); and

Claims 5, 6, 11-13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Reynolds in view of Klosterman and further in view of Ellis and further in view of Huang.

Claims 1-19 have been canceled and claims 20-28 have been added. Applicants respectfully assert that the added claims are patentable over the cited references.

Claim 26 is representative and recites, *inter alia*:

"transmitting a first signal, in response to an operation by a user, to cause the portable information terminal apparatus to acquire from a program information service provider program information about a program;
...
displaying the acquired program information on the portable information terminal apparatus; and
...
transmitting a second signal, in response to an operation by a user, to cause the recording/reproducing apparatus to preset said program for unattended recording,
...
wherein the program information acquired is selected by the program information service provider based upon a registration by the user beforehand of desired program channels."

Claim 26 of the present application is a method directed to a portable information terminal apparatus (*e.g.*, a PDA) for controlling a recording/reproducing device (*e.g.*, a VCR). A user operates the portable information terminal apparatus to transmit a signal to, for example, a TV program information service provider to provide program information. Pub. App. par. [0093]. The received program information is displayed on the PDA. Pub. App. par. [0229] and FIG. 13. The user registered beforehand to receive only desired TV channels. Pub. App. par.

[0104]. The user operates the PDA to select a program from the displayed listing and transmits the selection to the VCR for preset unattended recording. Pub. App. par. [0139].

Thus, in the present application a portable information terminal apparatus is used to display program data and select a particular program from the displayed data for unattended recording on a recording/reproducing device.

The present invention has the advantage of limiting the amount program information provided by the program information service provider for display on the portable information terminal apparatus. Information on all available channels make it difficult to search the offered program information using the limited screen of a PDA, for example.

These features are not disclosed in the cited references.

Thus, claim 26 is patentable over the Reynolds, Klosterman, Ellis and Huang because those references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest each and every element recited in the claims.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of claim 27.

For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 26, independent claims 20 and 28 are also believed to be patentable.

Further, dependent claim 27 recites the additional features, *inter alia*:

“transmitting a third signal, in response to an operation by a user, to cause the recording/reproducing apparatus to reproduce and convert the recorded program to video data in a predetermined file format before outputting the converted video data; and
...
receiving the converted video data.”

Claim 27 is patentable over the Reynolds, Klosterman, Ellis and Huang for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 26. Further, claim 27 adds the feature that the user

can send a signal from the PDA, for example, for the recorded program data to be converted into another file format. The converted program data is received by the PDA. That is, the user requests and receives the recorded program data at the PDA in a format suitable for viewing on the PDA.

For example, a PDA has a smaller data storage capacity and a lower level of performance in displaying moving pictures than a personal computer. To make up for such limitations, the recorded program content data is converted to a suitable format that allows the PDA to give adequate displays when supplied with limited amounts of content data. The converted content data are transmitted to the PDA for subsequent display using the smaller data storage and display screen of the PDA. Pub. App. par. [0331].

The combination of selecting on a portable information terminal apparatus the unattended recording of a program from a limited program listing selected beforehand, conversion of the recorded program data to a format suitable for usage on the portable apparatus and subsequent receipt of the converted data is not disclosed in the cited art.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Claims 20-28 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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